



March 24, 2006
VS Release #06-13
Contact: Michael P. Kleiman
Phone: 505-846-4704

Crafter's cross stitched stocking selected for Air Force-level contest

Space Vehicles Directorate staff member makes handmade items enjoyed by family, friends, and fabric art fans

A cross stitched Christmas stocking provided Lisa Drown's first-ever entry into the Air Force-level crafts competition in the textile art category this year.

To reach the service-wide contest, her handmade item won at both the Kirtland Air Force Base and Air Force Materiel Command arts and crafts judged events in October 2005 and January 2006 respectively.

Currently serving as directorate secretary with the Space Vehicles Directorate, Ms. Drown started her handicraft hobby during the pre-teen years when she did embroidery and made pillow cases with simple designs. Following marriage in 1981, she began cross stitching, and five years later, participated in her inaugural base-level arts and crafts competition, winning first, second, and third place. After tasting initial success, the Oak Harbor, Ohio, native entered similar contests at other installations through the years, and occasionally, her cross stitch pieces received the top prize, but the recognition ceased at that stage until now.

"I am a detail person, and I like the detail of the cross stitch designs, as they almost look like paintings or photographs," said Ms. Drown. "I find cross stitching to be very relaxing."

During the last seven years, Ms. Drown has concentrated on cross stitching Christmas stockings to use as gifts for family. Each present has included the unique design of a particular room in a house. For example, the 19-year federal employee handcrafted a stocking with an antique stove for her grandmother who enjoyed cooking and baking. Likewise, for her sister who owns a Dalmatian, Ms. Drown cross stitched another featuring a rocking horse sporting black and white spots. In addition to her textile art skills, she has enjoyed doing other crafts such as decorative wood painting, wall plaques, Christmas ornaments and beading.

"I try to work (on cross stitch projects) probably a couple of lunch hours per week and an hour or two every couple of weekends. I also do other crafts," said Ms. Drown. "I always have a couple of unfinished projects waiting in the wings."

For more information on the Air Force Arts and Crafts Program, visit the website www.airforcegallery.com.

"I would like to see more participation in the (Air Force) crafts contests," she said. "I get to meet a lot of talented people and get good ideas."

Ideas that through the use of Ms. Drown's hands will be crafted into decorative items enjoyed by family, friends, and fabric art fans.

www.vs.af.mil

505.846.4704/4321

Space Vehicles Directorate

Air Force Research Laboratory

NEWS RELEASE



Lisa Drown, who serves as a secretary with the Space Vehicles Directorate, holds her cross stitched Christmas stocking, which has been selected to compete in the Air Force-level arts and crafts contest in the textile art category. (Photo by Michael P. Kleiman)